IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

TO BE ASSIGNED, WHICH IS A NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF

PCT/AU03/00689, FILED JUNE 2, 2003

Applicant

SCHNEINER ET AL.

Filed

CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH

Title

MEDICAL DEVICE

Art Unit

TO BE ASSIGNED

Examiner

TO BE ASSIGNED

Atty Docket No.

COCH-0123-US1

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.51(b), 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted herewith, except that a copy of any U.S. patent application identified herein or any patent, publication or other information listed herein cited or submitted in a prior application relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and identified below, is not submitted herewith.

CERTIFICATION

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted within three months of (i) the filing date of the above-identified U.S. National Patent application, or (ii) before the first office action on the merits, or (iii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the above-identified International Application, or (iv) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the International Application that has been assigned the above-identified U.S. Patent application number, whichever applies.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, including fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpayment to **Deposit** Account Number 10-0233-COCH-0123-US1.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Respectfully submitted,

Ajay A. Jagtiani

Registration Number 35,205

JAGTIANI + GUTTAG Democracy Square Business Center 10363-A Democracy Lane Fairfax, Virginia 22030 (703) 591-2664

December 3, 2004

10/516891

PTO/SB/08a (08-03) proved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 semark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and

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				First Named Inventor	SCHEINER, Rupert	
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(Use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name	To be assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	COCH-0123-US1	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		US- 4,499,245	02-15-85	Ikeguchi, et al.		
		US- 4,146,302	03-27-79	Jachimowicz		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵
Initials*	No.1	Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
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1	Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.